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Follow-up to the high-level meeting held on 24 September 2010: revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Enrique **Ochoa** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Follow-up to the high-level meeting held on 24 September 2010: revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations" was included in the agenda of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly in accordance with the decision taken by the Assembly at its 30th plenary meeting, on 14 October 2010 (see decision 65/503).

2. At its 2nd and 10th meetings, on 4 and 14 October 2010, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 88 to 104 and 162. The general debate on those items was held at the 2nd to 8th and 10th meetings, from 4 to 8 and on 11, 12 and 14 October (see A/C.1/65/PV.2-8 and 10). The Committee also held 10 meetings, from 13 to 15, from 18 to 22 and on 25 October, for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/65/PV.9-18). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 9th to 18th meetings, from 13 to 15, from 18 to 22 and on 25 October (see A/C.1/65/PV.9-18). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 19th to 23rd meetings, from 26 to 29 October (see A/C.1/65/PV.19-23).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/65/L.34 and Rev.1

3. At the 12th meeting, on 18 October, the representative of Austria, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the high-level meeting held on 24 September 2010: revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations" (A/C.1/65/L.34).

4. At the 22nd meeting, on 29 October, the sponsors, joined by Albania, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Estonia, France, Jamaica, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Mongolia, Montenegro, Peru, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Viet Nam, introduced a revised draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the high-level meeting held on 24 September 2010: revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations" (A/C.1/65/L.34/Rev.1).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/65/L.34/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

6. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Follow-up to the high-level meeting held on 24 September 2010: revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance of disarmament in strengthening global security and promoting international stability,

Recognizing that the political will to advance the disarmament agenda has been strengthened in recent years and that the international political climate is conducive to the promotion of multilateral disarmament and moving towards the goal of a world without nuclear weapons,

Expressing grave concern, nevertheless, about the current status of the disarmament machinery, including the lack of progress in the Conference on Disarmament for more than a decade, and stressing the need for greater efforts to advance multilateral disarmament negotiations,

Welcoming the efforts by Member States to secure progress in multilateral disarmament and the support of the Secretary-General for such efforts, and noting the intention to follow up on the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations, held in New York on 24 September 2010,

Mindful of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 11 of Chapter IV concerning the functions and powers of the General Assembly in respect of disarmament,

1. *Welcomes* the opportunity provided by the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations, convened at the initiative of the Secretary-General in New York on 24 September 2010, to address the need to advance multilateral disarmament efforts;

2. *Expresses appreciation* for the participation by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the high-level meeting, and emphasizes the support voiced for the urgent need to revitalize the work of multilateral disarmament bodies and to advance multilateral disarmament negotiations;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the suggestions made by Member States and the Secretary-General with regard to revitalizing the multilateral disarmament machinery;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session an item entitled "Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations".